



2015 - 01

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION URGES THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO STRENGTHEN BORDER SECURITY
AND IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT MEASURES TO ENSURE THE
SAFETY OF THE NATION**

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) is concerned with the safety and security of our borders, and;

WHEREAS, the quality of life normally enjoyed by our citizens is being jeopardized by an unsecure border that enables transnational criminals and their accomplices to prey on our citizens, and;

WHEREAS, violence against innocent citizens, public officials, law enforcement, and rival drug and human trafficking groups in Mexico continues to escalate and cross international boundaries, and;

WHEREAS, border security is a Federal responsibility and should be a Federal priority, and;

WHEREAS, the President's Executive Action on Immigration has made information sharing between Federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies more difficult, thus hindering the operations and investigations of law enforcement at every level, and;

WHEREAS, the reduction of Federal enforcement of border security and prosecution of the criminal element places our citizens in harm's way and leaves local governments to bear the burden of costs associated with apprehension, prosecution, and incarceration of the criminal element, and;

WHEREAS, recent Federal prosecution policy changes have had a significant impact on how state and local authorities manage criminal justice prosecutions and have further burdened state and local resources, and;

WHEREAS, the failure to aggressively prosecute criminal acts occurring as a result of breaching our border will encourage the criminal element to continue exploiting our borders;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association urges Congress to direct the appropriate Federal agencies to fully secure our borders; fully reimburse Sheriffs for the costs associated with housing illegal aliens charged with state crimes; return to the original guidelines set forth in Operation Streamline; return to previous policies of assisting local governments and law enforcement agencies; and reduce the burdensome reporting requirements and restrictions on Federal grants.